

CLAIMS

1. A method comprising:

requesting content over a communication link;

receiving the requested content;

sending a first acknowledgment acknowledging receipt of the content;

receiving a second acknowledgement; and

enabling utilization of the received content in response to receiving the second acknowledgement.

2. The method of claim 1, further comprising disabling utilization of the requested content until the second acknowledgment is received.

3. The method of claim 1, wherein the communication link is a wireless link.

4. The method of claim 1, wherein the content comprises at least one of textual, graphical and video information, and said utilization comprises displaying said content.

5. The method of claim 1, wherein the content comprises audio information, and said utilization comprises

outputting an audio signal representative of said audio information.

6. The method of claim 1, wherein the content comprises at least one of a script or a program, and said utilization comprises running said script or program.

7. The method of claim 1, wherein said receiving the content comprises storing the received content and suppressing utilization of said content until the second acknowledgement is received.

8. The method of claim 1, further comprising resending the first acknowledgement in response to not receiving the second acknowledgment within a timeout period.

9. The method of claim 1, wherein said receiving content comprises receiving instructions operative to disable utilization of the received content until the second acknowledgment is received.

10. The method of claim 1, wherein said content is encrypted, and wherein said receiving said second acknowledgment comprises receiving a decryption key.

11. A method comprising:
receiving a request for content from a requesting device;
sending the requested content to the requesting device; and

transmitting a utilization acknowledgment to the requesting device in response to receiving a delivery confirmation acknowledgment from the requesting device, said utilization acknowledgment being operative to enable the requesting device to utilize the content.

12. The method of claim 11, wherein said transmitting the utilization acknowledgement comprises transmitting a display acknowledgment operative to enable the requesting device to display the content.

13. The method of claim 11, further comprising authorizing billing for the requested content in response to receiving the delivery confirmation acknowledgment from the requesting device.

14. The method of claim 11, wherein said receiving the request comprises receiving the request over a first communication link.

15. The method of claim 14, further comprising forwarding the request over a second communication link, wherein said second communication link is more reliable than said first communication link.

16. The method of claim 15, wherein the first communication link comprises a wireless link.

17. The method of claim 15, wherein the second communication link comprises a wired link.

18. The method of claim 11, further comprising retransmitting the requested content in response to not receiving a delivery confirmation acknowledgment from the requesting device within a timeout period.

19. The method of claim 11, further comprising determining a history of delivery confirmation acknowledgment by said requesting device and wherein said

sending the requested content to said requesting device is only performed if said history does not indicate a discrepancy.

20. A system comprising:

a content provider connected to a first network and operative to transmit content requested by a user station connected to a second network;

a gateway device connected to the first network and the second network, said gateway device operative to forward the requested content to the user station and to transmit a utilization acknowledgment operative to enable the user station to utilize the requested content in response to receiving a delivery confirmation acknowledgment from the user station; and

a billing system operative to bill a user for the delivered content in response to the display acknowledgment being transmitted.

21. The system of claim 20, wherein the content provider is operative to generate the display acknowledgment in response to receiving the delivery confirmation acknowledgement via the gateway device.

22. The system of claim 20, wherein the gateway device is operative to generate the display acknowledgment in response to receiving the delivery confirmation acknowledgement from the user station.

23. The system of claim 20, wherein the first network is more reliable than the second network.

24. The system of claim 23, wherein the first network is a wired network.

25. The system of claim 23, wherein the second network is a wireless network.

26. The system of claim 25, wherein the user station comprises a mobile device.

27. The system of claim 20, wherein said content provider further determines a history of delivery confirmation acknowledgment by said user station and wherein said sending of said content requested by said user station is only performed if said history does not indicate a discrepancy.

28. An article comprising a machine-readable medium including machine-executable instructions, the instructions operative to cause a machine to:

request content over a communication link;
receive the requested content;
send a first acknowledgment acknowledging receipt of the content;
receive a second acknowledgement; and
enable utilization of the received content in response to receiving the second acknowledgement.

29. The article of claim 28, further comprising instructions operative to cause the machine to disable utilization of the received content until the second acknowledgment is received.

30. An article comprising a machine-readable medium including machine-executable instructions, the instructions operative to cause a machine to:

receive a request for content from a requesting device;
send the requested content to the requesting device;
and

transmit a utilization acknowledgment to the requesting device in response to receiving a delivery confirmation acknowledgment from the requesting device, said utilization acknowledgment being operative to enable the requesting device to utilize the content.

31. The article of claim 30, further comprising instructions operative to cause the machine to authorize billing for the requested content in response to receiving the delivery confirmation acknowledgment from the requesting device.